MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil II*): May I know how many sections of the road have been completed?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*): One.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil II*): May I know how many more sections have to be completed?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*): Two.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil II*): May I know, Sir, the amount of additional expense that the Government will have to incur in order to complete the road?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*): It is not possible to say at present because the estimates are under reference with the Divisional Officer.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*) ; May I know the total distance of the road?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*): I think it is about 8 miles.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): May I know the length of that portion which has yet to be completed?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*): I am not quite sure at present; it may be about 5 miles.

Recruitment of Assistant Surgeons.

146. *MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): Will the Government be pleased to state the principle adopted by them in the matter of recruiting Assistant Surgeons to the Medical Department from eligible candidates?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Priority of application and the qualifications possessed by the applicants. The claims of communities which are not adequately represented in Public Service are also taken into consideration consistent with the above principles.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): May I know, Sir, whether the Medical Department maintains a list of applicants?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): May I know whether, when vacancies arise, candidates are selected from that list?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): May I know whether candidates are selected according to seniority in that list?

PRESIDENT: Qualification and seniority have been specified in the answer given by the member.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): May I know whether any deviation in point of seniority has been made in regard to recent selections?

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RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : I have no information at present. I claim notice.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*) : In answer to a question which I asked in the last Assembly, reported in the Proceedings dated the 28th May 1934,—

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*) : Can the member refer to a statement ?

PRESIDENT : No.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*) : I find from the proceedings that the claims of 4 juniors have been overlooked. May I know why that occurred ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : I have not got the Proceedings. That is a matter to be looked into.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*) : May I know whether Government will be pleased to look into that and redress the grievances of the juniors?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Government will look into the matter; and if they find that there is any grievance to be redressed, they will do so.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*) : How can the claims of juniors be overlooked ? Will the member make it plainer how the claims can be over-looked in favour of juniors. That is how the question was asked.

PRESIDENT : The member on the side of Government says he will look into the question; and if the matter has to be redressed, he will do so.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*) : May I know whether any distinction is observed between L. M. & S. and M. B. & B. S. as qualifications for appointments?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) ; Generally not.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*) : May I know whether the M. B. & B. S. examination is not a higher examination than the L. M. & S. ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Yes, it is.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*) : Then, may I know the exact reason why, as qualifying test, both are being put on the same level ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) ; Government consider that the L. M. & S. examination is sufficient qualification for appointment in the Medical Department.

PRESIDENT : What is meant, I suppose, is that L. M. & S. qualification is not ruled out for appointment in the Medical Department.

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MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): If the Government realise that the M. B. & B. S. is a higher examination, I want to know the exact reason why the Government should place that and the L. M. & S. examination on the same level. That is my question.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Government consider both L. M. & S. and M. B. & B. S. as adequate qualifications for appointment in the Medical Department, and do not give any preference to M. B. & B. S. Why Government have not given any preference to the M. B. & B. S., I cannot say now. It must be on the recommendation of the Darbar Physician.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): The question I raise is whether, especially in view of the large number of the M. B. & B. S. candidates now available, they should not be preferred to L.M.&S. candidates, if it is accepted that the M. B. & B. S. is a higher examination than the L. M. & S.

PRESIDENT: Government may consider the question.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): May I know whether M. D. will be preferred to M. B. & B S.?

PRESIDENT: That is going still higher up.

Statement, by caste, of Midwives and Nurses.

147. ***MR. K. PADMANABHAN** (*Chirayinkil I*): Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a caste-war list of Midwives and Nurses in Government service?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): A *statement furnishing the required information is laid on the table.

Pazhanchira in the Chirayinkil taluk.

148. ***MR. K. PADMANABHAN** (*Chirayinkil I*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to inform the House whether they have received petitions from the people of Melkadakkavoor, Chirayinkil *pakuthi*, Chirayinkil taluk, praying for the repair and maintenance of an irrigation tank called Pazhanchira (പഴഞ്ചിറ) in Survey No. 2127 of the said *pakuthi*?

(*b*) If the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, will the Government be pleased to give the date of the earliest of such petitions?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) 9-4-1104.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): What action has been taken in the matter?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*): Plans and estimates have been called for from the Division Officer.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): Have the plans and estimates come into the hands of the Chief Engineer?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*): I said just now that plans and estimates have been called for from the Division Officer.

* *Vide* Appendix III.

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